

## For Immediate Release

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## Uponor Receives Training and Development Grant In Conjunction with Local Technical College

Uponor, in conjunction with Dakota County Technical College, has received a \$298,000 grant from the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership (MJSP) for a two-year training and educational development program for employees.



From left, Apple Valley Mayor Mary Hamann-Roland looks on as Ron Thomas, president, Dakota County Technical College; Anders Tollsten, executive vice president, Uponor; Paul Moe, director, Minnesota Job Skills Partnership; and Richard Tvedten, system director, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System, sign the state-funded grant.

"This is a phenomenal opportunity to provide additional training around specific needs that we have," says Eric Fiedler, learning and organization development manager, Human Resources, at Uponor. "With our long-standing partnership with Dakota County Technical College, we can advance our development offerings in key areas of business."

The grant will help fill three targeted areas of training and development for Uponor employees, including:

- Fire safety certification
- Online learning and web development
- Lean business processes to reduce waste and improve efficiencies

A sampling of the development offerings provided via the partnership include integrated management systems, train the trainer, critical thinking and problem solving, multicultural leadership, ISO/quality system training, maintenance theory and skills, and fire safety engineering.

“This is a great day,” said Mayor Mary Hamann-Roland during the grant signing ceremony held at the company’s corporate headquarters in Apple Valley, Minn., on Feb. 5. “For Uponor to invest in its workforce, especially during these tough economic times, shows the commitment they have toward their employees as well as their business partners for the future. We in Apple Valley are proud to be the home of such a forward-thinking company.”

Additional attendees and speakers at the grant signing ceremony included Minnesota State Representative Phil Sterner; Chaz Johnson, a representative from Congressman John Kline’s office; Ron Thomas, president, Dakota County Technical College; Paul Moe, director, Minnesota Job Skills Partnership; and Richard Tvedten, system director for customized training and continuing education, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System.

Anders Tollsten, executive vice president of Uponor North America, stated his appreciation for the state’s investment in Uponor and its employees, and remarked that the company’s future is promising with the recent fire sprinkler mandate and PEX approval in the California Plumbing Code.

“This is really something to celebrate,” said Tollsten. “With this training grant, we are well-positioned to focus on the development of our valued employees. This is critical to being the industry leader in building system solutions for radiant floor heating and cooling, plumbing and fire sprinklers.”

**Uponor Corporation** is a leading supplier of plumbing, fire safety and radiant heating and cooling systems for the residential and commercial building markets across North America and Europe, and a market leader in municipal infrastructure pipe systems in the Nordic countries. Uponor Corporation employs 3,800 people in 27 countries and is listed on the NASDAQ OMX Helsinki Ltd., Finland.

**Uponor, Inc.** is headquartered in Apple Valley, Minn. For more information, visit [www.uponor-usa.com](http://www.uponor-usa.com) or call (800) 321-4739.

**Uponor Ltd.** is based in Mississauga, Ont. For more information, visit [www.uponor.ca](http://www.uponor.ca) or call (888) 994-7726.

**For more information about Uponor**, visit the Uponor media room at <http://www.lnccommunications.com/uponor-media.html>

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**Hi-res versions of a photograph to accompany this release** are available for immediate download in .tif format by using this link: <http://www.LNCmail.com/pr09/up0928/training-grant.html>

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